

**PATENT APPLICATION**  
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q80436

TSUKADA, Kenji, et al.

Divisional of Appln. No.: 09/917,217

Group Art Unit: 2856

Confirmation No.: 8382

Examiner: Rose Mary Miller

Filed: March 12, 2004

For: DETECTOR OF LIQUID CONSUMPTION CONDITION

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

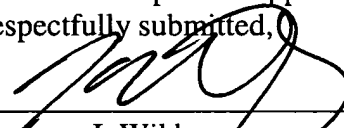
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form which are all the references of record in parent application No. 09/917,217. Applicant is not submitting duplicate copies of these references but requests that they be listed on the face of any patent granted on the above application. (See 37 CFR §1.98(d)). Copies of any cited copending applications, if not previously submitted, are being submitted herewith.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 12, 2004

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Divisional of Appln. No.	09/917,217
				Confirmation Number	8382
				Filing Date	Herewith
				First Named Inventor	Kenji TSUKADA, et al.
				Art Unit	2856
Examiner Name				Rose Mary Miller	
Attorney Docket Number				Q80436	
Sheet	1	of	3		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 4,811,595		3/14/1989	Marciniak et al.
		US 4,770,038		9/13/1988	Zuckerwar et al.
		US 5,353,631		10/11/1994	Woringer et al.
		US 5,949,447		9/7/1999	Arai et al.
		US 5,774,136		6/30/1998	Barbehenn et al.
		US 5,712,667		1/27/1998	Sato
		US 6,164,744		12/26/2000	Froger et al.
		US 3,832,900		9/3/1974	Ross
		US 3,703,693		11/21/1972	Levinn
		US 4,403,227		9/6/1983	Bertschy et al.
		US 6,007,190		12/28/1999	Murray et al.
		US 6,312,106		11/6/2001	Walker
		US 6,312,115		11/6/2001	Hara et al.
		US 6,390,590		5/21/2002	Hansburg
		US 5,463,377		10/31/1995	Kronberg
		US 5,788,819		8/4/1998	Onishi et al.
		US 5,975,102		11/2/1999	Schalk
		US 6,044,694		4/4/2000	Anderson et al.
		US 6,312,074		11/6/2001	Walker
		US 5,737,963		4/14/1998	Eckert et al.
		US 5,747,689		5/5/1998	Hampo et al.
		US 5,788,388		8/4/1998	Cowger et al.
		US 4,984,457		1/15/1991	Morris
		US 5,315,317		5/24/1994	Terasawa et al.
		US 5,689,288		11/18/1997	Wimmer et al.
		US 5,697,248		12/16/1997	Brown
		US 3,889,247		6/10/1975	Voll
		US 5,586,085		12/17/1996	Lichte
		US 4,984,449		1/15/1991	Caldwell et al.
		US 5,793,705		8/11/1998	Gazis et al.
		US 4,008,612		2/22/1977	Nagaoka et al.
		US 4,107,994		8/22/1978	Sogo
		US 4,419,677		12/6/1983	Kasugayama et al.
		US 4,796,782		1/10/1989	Wales et al.
		US 6,470,744	B1	10/29/02	Usui, et al.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.

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				Application Number	09/917,217
				Confirmation Number	8382
				Filing Date	July 30, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Kenji TSUKADA, et al.
				Art Unit	2856
Examiner Name	Rose Mary Miller				
Sheet	2	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	Q65620
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 5,616,929		April 1, 1997	Hara
		US 4,479,982		Oct. 30, 1984	Nilsson et al.

<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		WO	98/31548		7/23/1998	Hewlett-Packard Company	
		JP	63247047		10/13/1988	Canon Inc.	Abstract
		GB	2 304 898		3/26/1997	The Whitaker Corporation	
		WO	98/09139		3/5/1998	The General Electric Company	
		EP	0 873 873		10/28/1998	Hewlett-Packard Company	
		JP	06297726		10/25/1994	Canon Inc.	Abstract
		JP	62-95225		5/1/1987	Canon Inc.	Abstract
		EP	0 676 624		10/11/1995	Simmonds Precision Products Inc.	
		EP	0 803 364		10/29/1997	Canon Inc.	
		EP	1 088 668		4/4/2001	Hewlett-Packard Company	
		JP	10026549		1/27/1998	Nohken	Abstract
		JP	07137276		5/30/1995	Canon Inc.	Abstract
		EP	0 853 236		7/15/1998	Smiths Industries Public Limited Co.	
		JP	04135862		5/11/1992	Seikosha Co. Ltd.	Abstract
		JP	10-305590		11/17/1998	Matsushita Electric Co., Ltd.	Abstract
		WO	99/42293		8/26/1999	Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing Co.	
		EP	0 660 092		6/28/1995	Canon Inc.	
		EP	0 553 535		8/4/1993	Seiko Epson Corporation	
		JP	2000318183		11/21/2000	Sony Corporation	Abstract
		EP	0 684 136	A2 & A3	Nov. 29, 1995	Canon Kabushiki Kaisha	Yes
		JP	58-205820		Nov. 1983	Fuji Electric Chemical Co.	Partial

<b>OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</b>			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Patent Abstracts of Japan, Publication NO. 02034353; February 5, 1990; Canon, Inc.	Yes
		Patent Abstracts of Japan, Publication NO. 07081290; March 28, 1995; Pentel KK.	Yes

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		US 5,410,518		4/25/1995	Birkett
		US 4,594,891		6/17/1986	Benz et al.
		US 6,302,527		10/16/2001	Walker
		US 6,050,669		4/18/2000	Yano et al.
		US 6,012,793		1/11/2000	Haigo
		US 5,877,997		3/2/1999	Fell
		US 4,853,718		8/1/1989	El Hatem et al.
		US 5,035,140		7/30/1991	Daniels et al.
		US 5,583,544		12/10/1996	Stamer et al.
		US 5,619,238		4/8/1997	Higuma et al.
		US 5,675,367		10/7/1997	Scheffelin et al.
		US 3,220,258		11/30/1965	Rod
		US 4,636,814		1/13/1987	Terasawa
		US 5,473,353		12/5/1995	Soucemarianadin, et al.
		US 3,110,890		11/1963	Westcott et al.
		US 4,329,875		05/1982	Nolting et al.
		US 6,089,686		07/2000	Thornton et al.
		US 6,089,9688		07/2000	Froger et al.
		US 4,703,652		11/1987	Itoh et al.

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		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		JP	60-4820		11/1/1985		
		FR	002572519	A1	05/1986	Reymond et al.	

### OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

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